

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PARM, UNGA, PK
SUBJECT: SSOD: GENERAL DEBATE SUMMARY, MAY 29, 1978:
PAKISTAN OPENING STATEMENT.

1. SUMMARY: PAKISTANI REP. AGHA SHAHI MADE A THOUGHTFUL,
BALANCED STATEMENT COVERING THE WIDEST RANGE OF DISARMAMENT
ISSUES YET ADDRESSED IN ANY DETAIL DURING SSOD GENERAL
DEBATE. PARTICULAR EMPHASIS WAS PLACED ON THE ISSUE OF
SECURITY ASSURANCES TO NON-NUCLEAR STATES IN ADDITION TO
THE EXPECTED PLUG FOR SUPPORT OF THE LONG-STANDING
PAKISTANI INITIATIVE ON ESTABLISHING A SOUTH ASIAN NUCLEAR
WEAPON FREE ZONE. AGHA SHAHI ALSO COMMENTED ON SUCH
ISSUES AS SALT, COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN, ENHANCED RADIATION
WEAPONS, NON-PROLIFERATION, CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS
AND OTHERS. SALIENT POINTS OF PAKISTANI STATEMENT FOLLOW
BELOW. END SUMMARY.

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2. GENERAL: THE OVERALL TONE OF THE PAKISTANI OPENING
STATEMENT WAS MODERATE -- CRITICAL OF THE LACK OF
ACHIEVEMENT OF REAL DISARMAMENT, BUT NOT DISCOUNTING
ENTIRELY THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PAST, MULTILATERALLY-AGREED
MEASURES WHICH HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED IN THE FIELD OF ARMS
CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT. HE WAS PARTICULARLY CRITICAL
OF THE LACK OF INFLUENCE THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES HAVE

BEEN ABLE TO EXERCISE IN DISARMAMENT IN THE PAST AND CALLED FOR THE DECISIONS TAKEN AT THIS SSOD TO "FULLY REFLECT THE INTERESTS AND PREOCCUPATIONS OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE THIRD WORLD AS WELL AS THE CHANGES WHICH HAVE OCCURRED IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OVER THE LAST 30 YEARS." AGHA SHAHI WAS THE FIRST SPEAKER TO REMARK ON SOME OF THE EARLIER SSOD STATEMENTS, MOST NOTABLY THE FRENCH, US AND USSR STATEMENTS. HE WAS ESPECIALLY SUPPORTIVE OF SOME OF THE FRENCH PROPOSALS AND MILDLY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE PROSPECTS THAT AGREEMENT WOULD BE REACHED SOON ON SALT AND COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN (CTB).

3. SALT: AGHA SHAHI BEGAN HIS REMARKS ON SALT BY SAYING THAT THE FIRST OBJECTIVE OF ANY DISARMAMENT STRATEGY MUST BE THE "REDUCTION OF THE ARSENALS OF THE TWO SUPERPOWERS, TO THE MINIMUM LEVELS NECESSARY FOR MUTUAL DETERRENCE." HE SAID PAKISTAN VIEWED THE SALT NEGOTIATIONS AS "BUT THE FIRST STEP ALONG A THOUSAND MILE JOURNEY", BUT WELCOMED THE CURRENT TALKS AND THE INDICATIONS THAT THE US AND USSR WERE READY TO MOVE FURTHER TOWARD SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION OF STRATEGIC NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND STRICTER LIMITATIONS ON THEIR QUALITATIVE DEVELOPMENT.

4. COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN AND ENHANCED RADIATION WEAPONS: AGHA SHAHI WELCOMED THE STATEMENTS OF THE US AND USSR REGARDING THE PROSPECTS FOR THE CONCLUSION OF A CTBT, BUT UNCLASSIFIED

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ALSO EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT AGREEMENT ON A CTB SHOULD HAVE BEEN REACHED FIFTEEN YEARS AGO. HE STATED THAT THE LONG DELAY HAD LED TO AN INTENSIFICATION OF THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE. IN THIS CONTEXT, AGHA SHAHI EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT "EARLY AGREEMENT" WOULD BE REACHED BETWEEN THE US AND THE USSR ON A "MUTUAL RENUNCIATION ... OF NEW TYPES OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS SUCH AS THE SO-CALLED 'NEUTRON BOMB'".

5. SECURITY ASSURANCES: AGHA SHAHI EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT, PENDING CONCLUSION OF AN AGREEMENT PROHIBITING THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, "THE SUPERPOWERS WOULD EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF REACHING AN INTERIM ACCORD ON THE NON-FIRST USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS". HE WELCOMED THE DECLARATIONS OF THE PRC, FRANCE AND THE USSR THAT THEY WOULD NOT USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS AGAINST NON-NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT "OTHER NUCLEAR POWERS" WOULD BE "NO LESS FORTHCOMING" IN PROVIDING SUCH AN ASSURANCE TO NON-NUCLEAR STATES. HE ALSO STATED THAT SECURITY ASSURANCES TO NON-NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES WERE MULTILATERAL UNDERTAKINGS, "NOT BILATERAL TRANSACTION(S)" AND MUST BE "INCORPORATED

IN A SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION AND INVESTED WITH
BINDING FORCE UNDER A LEGAL INSTRUMENT".

6. NON-PROLIFERATION: AGHA SHAHI STATED THAT THE "FIRST
TASK" TO PREVENT NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION IS TO BRING UNSAFE-
GUARDED FACILITIES UNDER INTERNATIONAL CONTROL AND "TO
ACCOUNT FOR THE FISSILE MATERIAL ACCUMULATED FROM THEM".
HE CHARGED THE SUPPLIERS WITH ATTEMPTING TO RESTRAIN AND

HINDER THE TRANSFER AND DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY
FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES, "ESPECIALLY IN
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES". HE REMINDED THE ASSEMBLY OF
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UNGA RESOLUTION 32/50, WHICH CONTAINED A SET OF
PRINCIPLES TO GOVERN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN
THE PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY, ASKING THAT
THE SSOD URGE THE SUPPLIERS TO REVIEW THEIR POLICIES
AND ADHERE TO THE AGREED PRINCIPLES CONTAINED IN RES. 32/50.
HE ALSO PROPOSED THAT THE SSOD CALL FOR THE ADOPTION OF A
SPECIAL PROGRAM TO PROMOTE NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY FOR PEACEFUL
PURPOSES IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

7. SOUTH ASIAN NUCLEAR WEAPON FREE ZONE (SANWFZ): AGHA
SHAHI DECLARED THAT THE NECESSARY CONDITIONS FOR THE
CREATION OF A NUCLEAR WEAPON FREE ZONE EXIST IN SOUTH
ASIA. REFLECTING PAST INDIAN OBJECTIONS TO A SANWFZ,
AGHA SHAHI STATED THAT "SOUTH ASIA IS A LARGE
ENOUGH GEOGRAPHIC AREA TO QUALIFY FOR THE STATUS OF A
NUCLEAR WEAPON FREE ZONE. HE ALSO SAID THAT NONE OF
THE "REGIONAL STATES" OPPOSED CREATION OF A SANWFZ AND
ANY DOUBTS OR RESERVATIONS COULD BE RESOLVED THROUGH
CONSULTATIONS.

8. CONVENTIONAL ARMS: AGHA SHAHI STATED THAT THE
"PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY" FOR DISARMAMENT IN THE FIELD
OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS AS IN NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT, BELONGED
TO THE SUPERPOWERS. HE SUPPORTED THE FRENCH PROPOSAL
TO HOLD MEETINGS OF SUPPLIERS AND ARMS-IMPORTING COUNTRIES
IN A REGION AND PROPOSED THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES AS
GUIDELINES FOR SUCH AN EFFORT, ASKING THAT SSOD ENDORSE
THE PRINCIPLES:

BEGIN QUOTE:

FIRST, THE OBJECTIVE OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS SUPPLIES OR
RESTRAINTS MUST BE TO PROMOTE PEACE AND SECURITY GLOBALLY
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AS WELL AS IN VARIOUS REGIONS.

SECOND, A MILITARY BALANCE WHICH ENSURES DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY SHOULD BE MAINTAINED AMONG REGIONAL STATES AND FOR THIS PURPOSE BOTH THE LEVELS OF TRANSFER AND INDIGENOUS PRODUCTION OF ARMAMENTS, NEED TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

THIRD, THOSE STATES WHICH ARE IN A PREPONDERANT MILITARY POSITION SHOULD INITIATE ARMS LIMITATIONS.

FOURTH, THE RIGHT OF EACH STATE TO MAINTAIN A LEVEL OF FORCES ESSENTIAL FOR ITS SECURITY MUST BE RECOGNIZED.

END QUOTE.

9. MACHINERY: AGHA SHAHI CALLED FOR THE UN TO PLAY A "CENTRAL ROLE" IN DISARMAMENT, "MONITORING AND FACILITATING ALL DISARMAMENT EFFORTS." TO THIS END, HE SUGGESTED THAT THE FIRST COMMITTEE OR A REVISED UN DISARMAMENT COMMISSION COULD UNDERTAKE THE TASK OF "DELIBERATING AND EVOLVING OVERALL SOLUTIONS TO DISARMAMENT PROBLEMS". HE SUPPORTED PRESERVATION OF THE CCD, BUT CALLED FOR A MORE DIRECT AND EXPLICIT" RELATIONSHIP TO THE UN; DEMOCRATIZATION OF ITS PROCEDURES AND WORKING METHODS AND CREATIONS OF THE NECESSARY CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION OF ALL NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES, IN ADDITION TO A LIMITED INCREASE IN THE CCD'S COMPOSITION. YOUNG UNQUOTE VANCE

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